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THE GUIDING LIGHT

Discovering Allah

A Collection of Quranic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Masumin

SUGGESTED AGES 8+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS

GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj).
May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Acknowledgments

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.
Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah (swt), but we would like to sincerely thank Brother Aliakbar Shaheidari and Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Zahra Sabur, Noor Kraus, Fatima Hussain, Sumaiya Mithani, Fizza Moalem, Sajeda Merchant, Shahista Asgaraly, Sarah Assaf, Fatemeh Eslami, Israa Safieddine, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Elham Shaheidari, and Rumina Hashmani. We would especially like to thank Nashr Kumeh Publications for their artwork and contributions.

May Allah (swt) bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

For our daughter Shireen Ahsan, who loved the Ahl al-Bayt, and was loved by all around her,
please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah.

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *The Guiding Light* series is to help children learn that Islam is a holistic religion that shows the best way to lead our lives in all different areas!

With Duʿās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think 'outside of the box' by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum, and begin their life-long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of *Darse Khārij* from the *Ḥawzah* (the Highest Level of Islamic Studies in the Seminary), Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, having grown up in India, and now residing in the United States, he has had the honor of traveling to various communities and meeting many community leaders. He values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials, and to create open source platforms so that information and resources are available and accessible to everyone around the world.

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You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family.
Share the word, and join the mission.

1 Discovering Allah

A Collection of Qur'ānic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Ma'sūmīn

When we think about Allah, it should be with an outlook of love, honor, mercy, and compassion. After all, He is involved and helps us in all our affairs. One way that we can strengthen our remembrance of Allah is by looking at and appreciating His blessings. By doing so, we are able to see Allah everywhere and in everything.

LESSON 1

BEGIN WITH BISMILLĀH

وَ قَالَ ارْكَبُوا فِيْهَا بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ مَجْرٰهَا وَ مُرْسٰهَا

And he [Prophet Nūḥ] said [to the travellers], “Board it [the ark] with the Name of Allah, and it shall set sail and cast anchor.”

Sūrah Hūd, Verse 41

One day, Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) was walking down the street when he came across Shayṭān. When he looked more closely, he noticed that Shayṭān seemed very weak and tired, so he asked him, "How did you get so weak?"

Shayṭān angrily answered, "I'm suffering nonstop pain and torture from your Muslims!"

The Prophet (ṣ) curiously asked, "Why? What have they done to you? How are they bothering you?"

"Well," replied Shayṭān, "They have seven habits that really annoy me:

1) When they begin any action, they say '*Bismillāhir Raḥmānir Raḥīm*' (In the name of Allah, the All Kind, the All Merciful).
2) When they meet, they greet each other by saying '*Salāmun ʿalaykum*' (Peace be upon you).
3) When they first see each other, they shake hands.
4) Whenever they plan to do something, they say *inshāʾAllāh* (only if Allah wants it to happen).
5) They always ask each other for forgiveness. (This one ruins all of my hard work!)
6) Whenever they hear your name, they recite a *ṣalawāt* and send blessings upon you!
7) They follow your Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) and are kind to their followers."

Anwār al-Majālis, Vol. 88, Ch. 5

لَوْ قَرَأْتَ بِسْمِ اللهِ تَحْفَظُكَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
If you say "Bismillāh" [before starting anything], the angels will protect you all the way until you reach Heaven.

Fiqh ar-Riḍā (ʿa), P. 342

LESSON 2

Always Remember Allah

فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ

Remember Me, and I will remember you.

Sūrah al-Baqarah, Verse 152

There was once a man who had an important question. He tried to find the answer to his question, but nobody could help him! Finally, he decided to visit Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa). After all, he heard that the Imām (ʿa) was the wisest and smartest of all.

The next day, when he met with the Imām (ʿa), he was bursting to ask his question. After greeting the Imām (ʿa), he took a deep breath and asked, "If we can't see Allah, how do we know that He is there?"

The Imām (ʿa) paused for a moment. Instead of giving him a quick answer, he asked the man, "Have you ever been on a boat in the middle of the sea?"

The man nodded his head, remembering the time he sailed through the Red Sea.

"And was there ever a strong and sudden storm that ruined your boat until it started to sink?" continued the Imām (ʿa).

"Yes! That happened to me before," the man said quickly, wondering how the Imām (ʿa) knew about that time when he almost drowned in the sea.

The Imām (ʿa) went on, "When you think back to that moment when you were so scared and alone, and there was nobody around to help you or save you, didn't you still have hope that you would be saved?"

“Yes, deep down inside, I still had hope!” the man admitted.

“So, who did you think was going to save you?" asked the Imām (ʿa). The man was speechless.

"At that moment, you had hope in Allah," said the Imām (ʿa). "You knew that only Allah could save you when nothing else could."

The man felt so relieved and finally understood Allah better! He thanked the Imām (ʿa) for helping him realize something so important. Now that he was sure that Allah is always there, he was able to think about Allah and pray so much more and better than before!

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 3, P. 41

مَنْ أَكْثَرَ ذِكْرَ اللهِ أَحَبَّهُ اللهُ

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Allah loves those who always remember Him.

Al-Kāfī, Vol. 2, P. 499

LESSON 3
Ask Allah for Health

وَ إِذَا مَرِضْتُ فَهُوَ يَشْفِيْنِ

And when I get sick, it is [Allah] who cures me.

Sūrah ash-Shuʿarāʾ, Verse 80

In a town in Iraq, there lived a man who was very sick. Night and day, he was always in pain. After seeing one doctor after the other, and trying one medicine after another, he was not feeling any better. Nothing cured him!

Just as he was feeling hopeless, one of his friends suggested, “Why don’t you go to Imām al-Hādī (ʿa) and ask him to pray for you? Don’t you know that the Imām’s prayers are always accepted?” He decided to take his friend’s advice, and a few days later, he was on his way to visit the Imām (ʿa).

The moment the man saw the Imām (ʿa), he stopped in his tracks. He did not have the courage to ask the Imām (ʿa) for his prayers. Before he could say anything, the Imām (ʿa) broke the silence, “May Allah grant you health, may Allah grant you health, may Allah grant you health!” The man was shocked and speechless. *How did he know?* he thought to himself.

One man was standing nearby and saw the whole thing. “*SubḥānAllāh*!” he exclaimed happily. “You’ll feel better very soon. Our Imām (ʿa) prayed for your health before you could even ask him!”

For a moment, the sick man felt like he was dreaming. He walked back home feeling so thankful to Allah. The next morning, he jumped out of bed with bursting energy! He had never felt better!

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 50, P. 145

إِنَّ هٰذَا الْقُرْآنَ شِفَاءٌ لِلصُّدُورِ

Imām Ḥasan (ʿa):
Indeed, this Qur’ān heals hearts.

Jāmiʿ al-Akhbār, Vol. 1, P. 164

LESSON 4

Allah Watches Us

أَلَمْ يَعْلَمْ بِأَنَّ اللّٰهَ يَرَىٰ

Does he not know that Allah sees (everything)?

Sūrah al-ʿAlaq, Verse 14

ʿAbdullāh was a pious man who owned a big orchard full of fruit. Every time he picked the fruit from his trees, he would donate some of it to the poor and needy. In return for his kindness and generosity, the poor people decided to help him take care of the orchard. ʿAbdullāh was very thankful to them for their help.

As the years passed, he grew older and weaker. One day, after he had fallen very sick, he advised his children, “My dear sons, please continue to give fruit to the poor and needy, especially those who work in the orchard. You should always share what you have with others.” The three sons promised their father that they would take his advice.

But soon after ʿAbdullāh passed away, they broke their promise. They were too greedy and wanted all of the fruit for themselves. So, they decided to go to the orchard early in the morning to pick all of the fruit while everyone was still asleep. When the poor workers found this out, they realized that the three sons were being very greedy. For this reason, they decided that they would no longer help out at the orchard.

Soon enough, the orchard became very messy, and the trees were not growing as well anymore. The oldest brother looked at the orchard and thought, *The orchard looks much worse now!* This made him realize that what they were doing was wrong!

With his father’s advice in mind, he told his two brothers, “Let's help the poor. We need to remember Allah, for He can see everything that we do.” But no matter how much he tried to warn them, his brothers did not listen. They continued picking the fruit early in the morning, before the others came.

One stormy night, lightning struck one of the trees, setting it on fire! The next morning, as they approached the orchard, they saw that the entire orchard and all the fruit had been burned down! When the oldest son saw this, he said to his brothers, “This is all your fault! If you did not forget Allah, this would never have happened!” Seeing this, the two brothers realized their mistake and immediately asked Allah for forgiveness.

Tafsīr an-Namūnah, Vol. 24, P. 394

إِعْلَمْ أَنَّكَ لَنْ تَخْلُوَ مِنْ عَيْنِ اللهِ فَانْظُرْ كَيْفَ تَكُونَ

Imām Muḥammad al-Jawād (ʿa):
Know that you will never escape from Allah’s sight, so be careful about how you behave.

Tuḥaf al-ʿUqūl, P. 455

LESSON 5
Be Happy with Allah's Decisions

وَ اللّٰهُ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

And Allah knows what you do not know.

Sūrah al-Baqarah, Verse 216

There was once a man who had two daughters. His first daughter was married to a farmer, and his second daughter was married to a potter.

One day, he decided to visit both of his daughters. When he went to visit his first daughter, she was thrilled to see him! She gently asked, "Dearest Father, may I ask you for a favor? This year, my husband planted many seeds in our farm. Please pray that it rains a lot so that we can have good crops!" The father smiled and said, "*Inshāʾ Allāh*." After having some tea and biscuits, he said goodbye and made his way to his second daughter's house.

When he arrived, his second daughter was also very happy to see him. She asked, "My dear Father, may I ask you for a favor? My husband spent the whole year making many beautiful clay dishes. Please pray that it does not rain! If it rains, the dishes won't dry fast enough and we won't be able to sell them." Once again, the father smiled and said, "*Inshāʾ Allāh*." After having some juice and cookies, he said goodbye and headed home.

On his way back, he thought deeply about what had happened. Both of his daughters had asked him to make a prayer, but the two prayers were the opposite of each other. Since the man was wise and pious, he prayed to Allah, "O Allah, we don't know what is best for us, so please do whatever You think is best, because You know everything."

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 4

اِرْضَ تَسْتَرِحْ

Imām ʿAlī (ʿa):
Be content (with what you have), and you will be at peace.

Ghurar ul-Ḥikam, Ḥadīth #2243

Quiz Yourself!

1. Shayṭān gets weaker when we _____. (Circle all that apply.)
   a. start every action with *Bismillāh*
   b. greet each other with *Salāmun ʿalaykum*
   c. share food with others

2. In the Qurʾān, Allah promises us that if we remember Him, He will _____.
   a. reward us
   b. take us to Heaven
   c. remember us

3. Imām Ḥasan (ʿa) has told us that _____ heals our hearts.
   a. prayer
   b. the Qurʾān
   c. medicine

4. Imām al-Jawād (ʿa) warns us to be careful because _____.
   a. Allah sees everything we do
   b. the world is dangerous
   c. we might get hurt

5. We should always be _____ with Allah's decisions because He knows what's best for us.
   a. confused
   b. angry
   c. satisfied

6. Name two lessons that you learned from this book.

Email your answers to QUIZZES@KISAKIDS.ORG, and we will send you a certificate!

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All Glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Aḥādīth: Traditions from the Noble Prophet of Islam

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Bismillāhir Raḥmānir Raḥīm: (I begin) In the name of God, the All Kind, the All Merciful

Duʿāʾ: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

Imām al-Hādī (ʿa): The 10th Imām (divine leader); his name means the guide

Imām Ḥasan (ʿa): The 2nd Imām (divine leader); his name means good-doer

Imām al-Jawād (ʿa): The 9th Imām (divine leader); his name means the generous one

Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa): The 6th Imām (divine leader); his name means the truthful

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Maʿṣūmīn: Infallibles

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): The last and final Messenger of God

Qurʾān: The Holy Book of Muslims

Salāmun ʿalaykum: Peace be upon you

Ṣalawāt: Sending blessings on the Prophet (ṣ) and his Ahl al-Bayt

Shayṭān: The devil

SubḥānAllāh: All Glory and Praise belongs to God

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʿān

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

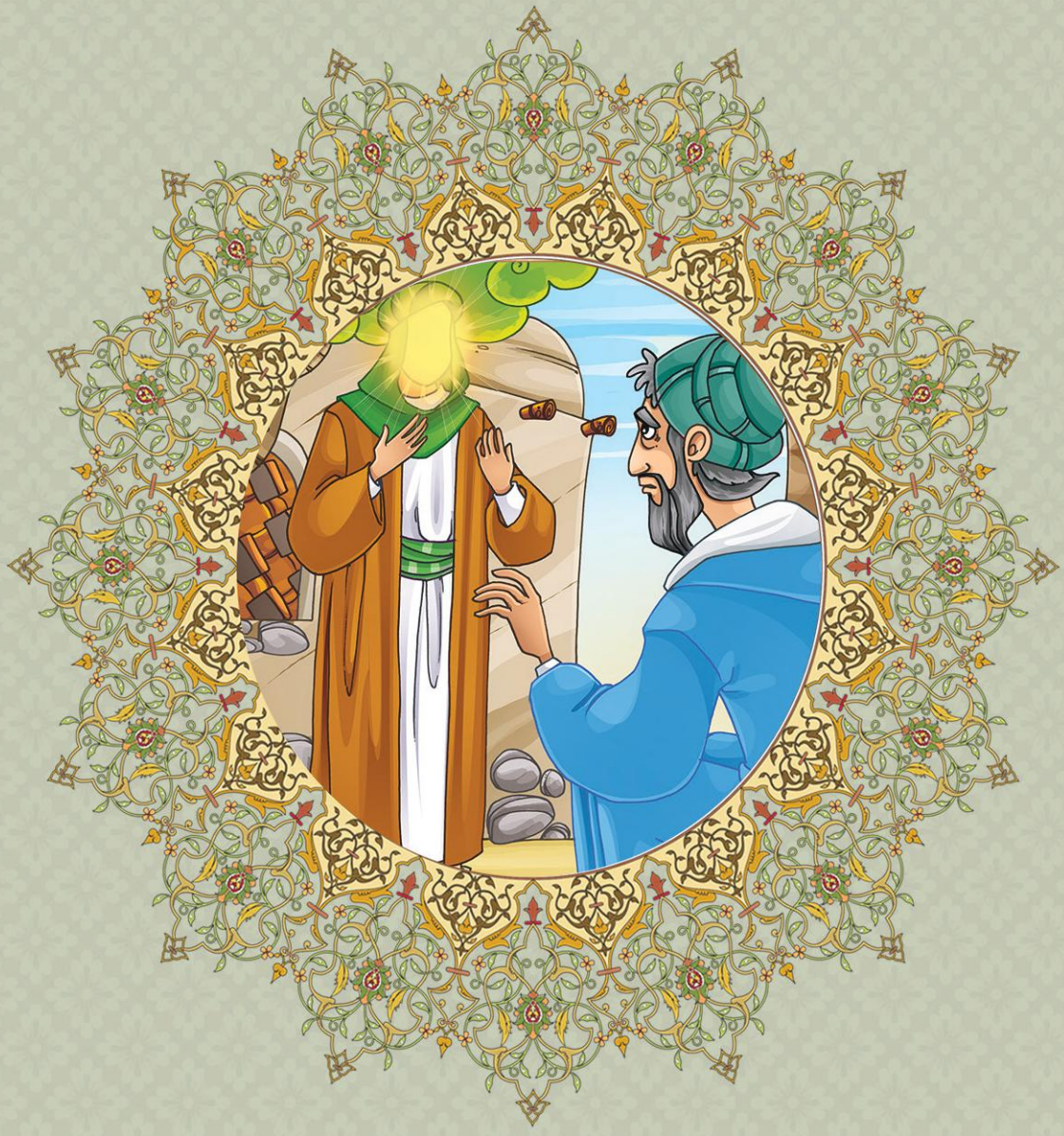
Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.



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